

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 EUR-25 NEA-14 CPR-02 DRC-01 /150 W

----- 103557

R 111349Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SGCSTATE WASHDC 9108

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 7750

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UG

SUBJ: FRG AMBASSADOR TO UGANDA URGES U.S. TO REOPEN

KAMPALA EMBASSY TO COUNTER SOVIETS

REF: BONN'S 14052

1. DURING COURTESY CALL SEPT. 11, DR. HAROLD ELLERKMANN, NEWLY ASSIGNED FRG AMBASSADOR TO UGANDA, RAISED POSSIBILITY OF USG REOPENING EMBASSY IN KAMPALA. HE INDICATED HE WAS PLANNING FORMAL REPORT ON SUBJECT THROUGH MFA BONN, BUT SINCE HE WAS IN NAIROBI, HE WANTED TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH ME ON PURELY PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.

2. ELLERKMANN SAID HE AND HIS EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES IN KAMPALA ALL REGARDED AMIN'S CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT FORD AS INVITATION TO USG TO REOPEN EMBASSY (REFTEL). HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY HE FELT IT WOULD BE IN BEST INTERESTS FOR US NOT ONLY TO REOPEN EMBASSY AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL BUT ALSO TO COME IN WITH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. KEY SECTORS OF UGANDAN ECONOMY, INCLUDING COFFEE, SUGAR, COTTON AND TEXTILES, IN SHAMBLES FOLLOWING ASIAN EXPULSION. AMIN NEEDS TECHNICIANS TO
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REBUILD

ECONOMY. CAN GET MONEY BUT NOT TECHNICIANS FROM ARABS. MAY THEREFORE TURN TO SOVIETS, WHO ELLERKMANN FEELS CAN BE EXPECTED TO COME IN ON LARGE SCALE AS THEY LOOKING FOR FOOTHOLD IN EAST AFRICA AND HAVE NOT FOUND ONE IN KENYA OR TANZANIA. SOVIET INVITATION TO AMIN TO PAY STATE VISIT IN 1975, WHICH AMIN HAS ACCEPTED, WOULD OFFER OPPRTUNITY FOR SUCH AN AGREE-MENT.

3. ELLERKMANN SAID THAT APART FROM HIS OWN GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS CONSIDERING STEPPING UP ITS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO UGANDA, OTHER WESTERN EMBASSIES IN KAMPALA PLAYING LOW-KEY, PASSIVE ROLE. THIS MADE IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT FOR U.S. TO COME BACK TO COUNTER SOVIETS.

4. I THANKED ELLERKMANN FOR HIS VIEWS AND SAID I WOULD RELAY THEM TO WASHINGTON. MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

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